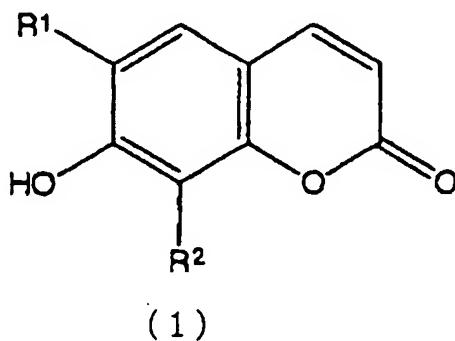


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A color fading/discoloration preventive agent containing, as its active ingredient, an ~~effective~~ amount of a coumarin analog effective to prevent color fading/discoloration of a composition containing a water or an oil-soluble pigment, wherein the coumarin analog is represented by formula (1) below, a glycoside of that analog, or a plant extract containing the coumarin analog or its glycoside:



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or a methoxy group, R² represents a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group, and R¹ and R² are not both hydrogen atoms.

2. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 1, wherein the coumarin analog is a compound selected from esculetin, flaxetin and daphnetin.

3. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 1, wherein the plant extract containing a coumarin analog or its glycoside is an extract from an olive plant.

4. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 1, wherein the plant extract containing a coumarin analog or its glycoside is an extract from the bark or leaf of a Japanese horse chestnut tree.

5. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 1, wherein the plant extract containing a coumarin analog or its glycoside is an extract of a beefsteak plant.

6. (currently amended) A color fading/discoloration preventive agent containing, as its active ingredient, an ~~effective~~

amount of a coumarin analog mixture effective to prevent color fading/discoloration of a composition containing a water or an oil-soluble pigment, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained from the rind of citrus fruit.

7. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 6, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained from citrus cold press oil derived from the rind of citrus fruit.

8. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 7, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is a coumarin analog mixture obtained from the high boiling point component of citrus cold press oil.

9. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 7, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained from the fraction eluted with a solvent after carrying the high boiling point component of citrus cold press oil onto a

carrier, and contains at least 50 wt% of the coumarin analog mixture.

10. (original) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 8, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained from the fraction eluted with a solvent after carrying the high boiling point component of citrus cold press oil onto a carrier, and contains at least 50 wt% of the coumarin analog mixture.

11. (currently amended) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 8 that contains at least 50 wt% of a coumarin analog mixture ~~comprising~~ that is obtained by a method comprising carrying the residue following distillation treatment of citrus cold press oil onto a carrier in a column, and concentrating the fraction that is eluted from the column with a solvent.

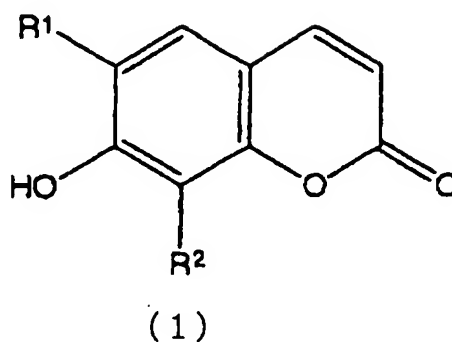
12. (currently amended) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 9 that contains at least 50 wt%

of a coumarin analog mixture ~~comprising~~ that is obtained by a method comprising carrying the residue following distillation treatment of citrus cold press oil onto a carrier in a column, and concentrating the fraction that is eluted from the column with a solvent.

13. (currently amended) The color fading/discoloration preventive agent according to claim 10 that contains at least 50 wt% of a coumarin analog mixture ~~comprising~~ that is obtained by a method comprising carrying the residue following distillation treatment of citrus cold press oil onto a carrier in a column, and concentrating the fraction that is eluted from the column with a solvent.

14. (currently amended) A method of preventing color fading/discoloration of a composition containing an oil-soluble pigment comprising adding to said composition a color fading/discoloration preventive agent containing, as its active ingredient, ~~an effective amount of~~ a coumarin analog represented by

formula (1) below, a glycoside of that analog, or a plant extract containing the coumarin analog or its glycoside:



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or a methoxy group, R² represents a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group, and R¹ and R² are not both hydrogen atoms.

15. (original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the coumarin analog is a compound selected from esculetin, flaxetin and daphnetin.

16. (original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the plant extract containing a coumarin analog or its glycoside is an extract from an olive plant.

17. (original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the plant extract containing a coumarin analog or its glycoside is an extract from the bark or leaf of a Japanese horse chestnut tree.

18. (original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the plant extract containing a coumarin analog or its glycoside is an extract of a beefsteak plant.

19. (currently amended) A method of preventing color fading/discoloration of a composition containing an oil-soluble pigment comprising adding to said composition a color fading/discoloration preventive agent containing as its active ingredient, ~~an effective amount of~~ a coumarin analog mixture obtained from the rind of citrus fruit.

20. (original) The method according to claim 19, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained from citrus cold press oil derived from the rind of citrus fruit.

21. (original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is a coumarin analog mixture obtained from the high boiling point component of citrus cold press oil.

22. (original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained from the fraction eluted with a solvent after carrying the high boiling point component of citrus cold press oil onto a carrier, and contains at least 50 wt% of the coumarin analog mixture.

23. (original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained from the fraction eluted with a solvent after carrying the high boiling point component of citrus cold press oil onto a carrier, and contains at least 50 wt% of the coumarin analog mixture.

24. (original) The method according to claim 21 ~~that~~
~~contains at least 50 wt% of a coumarin analog mixture comprising,~~
wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained by a method
comprising carrying the residue following distillation treatment of
citrus cold press oil onto a carrier in a column, and concentrating
the fraction that is eluted from the column with a solvent.

25. (original) The method according to claim 22 ~~that~~
~~contains at least 50 wt% of a coumarin analog mixture comprising,~~
wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained by a method
comprising carrying the residue following distillation treatment of
citrus cold press oil onto a carrier in a column, and concentrating
the fraction that is eluted from the column with a solvent.

26. (original) The method according to claim 23 ~~that~~
~~contains at least 50 wt% of a coumarin analog mixture comprising,~~
wherein the coumarin analog mixture is obtained by a method
comprising carrying the residue following distillation treatment of
citrus cold press oil onto a carrier in a column, and concentrating
the fraction that is eluted from the column with a solvent.